

Message Text

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41

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

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INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TU, US, GR

SUBJECT: NEWS MEDIA REACTION TO CANCELLATION OF SECRETARY'S
VISIT TO ANKARA

DEPARTMENT PLEASE REPEAT TO SECRETARY'S PARTY

1. SUMMARY. NEWSPAPERS AND RADIO/TV REPORTED PROMINENTLY
CANCELLATION OF SECRETARY'S TRIP TO ANKARA. REPORTAGE BORROWED
HEAVILY FROM INTERNATIONAL WIRE SERVICE WITH SLIGHT VARIANCE
EXCEPT FOR VRADYNI ACCOUNT WHICH ANTICIPATED WORSENING OF U.S./
TURKISH RELATIONS AND ELEFTHEROS COSMOS WHICH VIEWED CANCELLATION
WAS ECEVIT MANOEUVRE TO IMPROVE POLITICAL STANDING AS RPP LEADER.
ALL NEWSPAPERS REPORTED PORTIONS OF YET ARTICLE ON "KISSINGER
PLAN" FOR RESOLVING CYPRUS CRISIS WHICH ALLEGEDLY PROVIDES FOR
BEGINNING OF TURKISH TROOP WITHDRAWAL, GREE REFUGEES TO RETURN
TO HOMES, NICOSIA AIRPORT UNDER UN CONTROL, FAMAGUSTA PORT UNDER
UNFICYP, ETC. EDITORIALS CONFINED TO COMMUNIST PRESS WARNING
AGAINST IMPOSED SOLUTION AND APPEAL TO GOG TO DISCLOSE WHETHER
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SECRET NEGOTIATIONS UNDER WAY ON CYPRUS.

AKROPOLIS URGED ALL CONCERNED TO SUPPORT UNGA RESOLUTION. ESTIA BLESSED "GOOD GOD OF GREECE" FOR REMOVING PROSPECT OF KISSINGER INTERVENTION AS RESULT OF GOVERNMENT CRISIS IN TURKEY AND REPUBLICAN LOSSES AT U.S. POLLS NOVEMBER 5. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING PRIORITY RADIO/TV COVERAGE NOVEMBER 7, NEWSPAPERS TODAY REPORTED PROMINENTLY CANCELLATION OF SECRETARY'S TURKEY TRIP. KATHIMERINI (CONSERVATIVE) CARRIED HEADLINE "KISSINGER CANCELLED VISIT TO ANKARA" - "TURKISH POLITICAL LEADERS OBJECT TO POSITION ON CYPRUS PROBLEM." TO VIMA (LIBERAL) WROTE "KISSINGER VISIT TO ANKARA HAS BEEN CANCELLED" - "OFFICIAL EXPLANATION WAS GOVERNMENT CRISIS - ECEVIT FAILED TO FORM CABINET". AKROPOLIS CAPTIONED STORY "KISSINGER GO TO ANKARA - THERE WAS NO OFFICIAL TO DEAL WITH." ELEFTEROS COSMOS REPORTED "MR. KISSINGER POSTPONED TRIP TO ANKARA", "BLACKMAIL FOR FORMATION OF ECEVIT GOVERNMENT." OTHER PAPERS CARRIED SIMILAR HEADLINES WITH EXCEPTION OF VRADYNI (PRO-CARAMANLIS) WHICH WROTE "KISSINGER WOULD PROPOSE RETURN OF FAMAGUSTA - BUT HIS TRIP TO ANKARA WAS CANCELLED" - DISCORD ERUPTS BETWEEN TURKEY AND U.S." VYRADYNI OBSERVED THAT ANNOUNCEMENTS CONCERNING CANCELLATION ARE CONTRADICTORY; SOME INDICATE ECEVIT REQUESTED CANCELLATION; OTHER SOURCES REVEAL SECRETARY MADE DECISION. APOYEVMATINI REPORTED ON STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS IN TURKEY WITH HEADLINE "EVEN TURKS READY TO SHOUT KISSINGER ASSASSIN."

3. FAR LEFT PRESS IN EDITORIAL (RIZOSPASTIS) UNDERScoreD THAT REPORTS OF KISSINGER INTEREST IN CYPRUS INDICATES SOMETHING IS STIRRING AGAINST GREEK INTERESTS. SAME NEWSPAPER ALERTS PUBLIC TO BE WARY OF CARAMANLIS' WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT IMPOSED SOLUTIONS. AVGHI IN OPINION COLUMN URGED GREEK GOVERNMENT TO EXPLAIN HOW CYPRUS POLICY DEVELOPING WHILE AKROPOLIS (CENTER) IN EDITORIAL SUGGESTS TURKEY AND DR. KISSINGER RECALL THAT THEY SUPPORTED RECENT UNGA RESOLUTION. ESTIA (RIGHTIST) COMMENTED IN EDITORIAL THAT REPUBLICAN DEFEAT IN U.S. ELECTIONS INDICATED MISTAKEN CYPRUS POLICY OF DR. KISSINGER WHICH PROVIDES OCCASION FOR CARAMANLIS TO CALL FOR FULL REVIEW OF CYPRUS PROBLEM. KUBISCH

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